GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

EFS&T Department - Diversion of 4.69 ha. of forest land in compt.No.389 of Mangunta West R.F., Karvetinagar Range of Chittoor (East) WLM Division, Chittoor for quarry lease of black granite, in favour of M/s. Venkateswara Rocks, Prop. Sri P. Sudhakar Reddy, Chittoor - Permission accorded - Orders – Issued

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ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 20 **Dated: 12-08-2020.**
Read the following:-

1)From PCCF (HoFF), Lr.No.EFS02/15029/71/2018/FCA.SEC.PCCF/FCA 2, Dt.04-09-2018.
2)State Govt.Lr.EFS01-12021-100/Section-II/2018, dt.18-09-2018.
3)From GoI, MoEF& CC, Lr.F.No.4-APB076/2018-CHN/1788, dt.12-11-2018.
4)State Govt.Lr.EFS01-12021-100/Section-II/2018, dt.20-01-2020.
5)From GoI, MoEF& CC, Lr.F.No.4-APB076/2018-CHN/0125, dt.07-02-2020.

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ORDER:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Andhra Pradesh in his letter 1st read above, has submitted a proposal under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 4.69 ha. of forest land in compt.No.389 of Mangunta West R.F., Karvetinagar Range of Chittoor (East) WLM Division, Chittoor for quarry lease of black granite, in favour of M/s. Venkateswara Rocks, Prop. Sri P. Sudhakar Reddy, Chittoor and requested to forward the same to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests, & Climate Change, for according necessary approval in the matter.

2. The said proposal was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests, & Climate Change, for their approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide State Government letter 2nd read above.

3. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests, & Climate Change, vide their letter 3rd read above, have accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the proposal, subject to compliance of certain conditions as stipulated therein.

4. Accordingly, the State Government vide letter 4th read above, have furnished the compliance report on the conditions stipulated by the Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forests, & Climate Change, while according in-principle (Stage-I) approval.

5. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests, & Climate Change in their letter 5th read above, have accorded (**Stage-II**) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 4.69 ha. of forest land in Compt.No.389 of Mangunta West R.F., Karvetinagar Range of Chittoor (East) WLM Division, Chittoor for quarry lease of black granite, in favour of M/s. Venkateswara Rocks, Prop. Sri P.Sudhakar Reddy, Chittoor, subject to compliance of certain conditions as stipulated therein.

6. Government, after careful examination of the proposal, hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Andhra Pradesh for diversion of 4.69 ha. of forest land in Compt.No.389 of Mangunta West R.F., Karvetinagar Range of Chittoor (East) WLM Division, Chittoor for quarry lease of black granite, in favour of M/s. Venkateswara Rocks, Prop. Sri P.Sudhakar Reddy, Chittoor, subject to the following conditions:-

i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;

(Contd-2)

ii. Compensatory afforestation over the identified non-forest land over an extent of 4.50 ha out of 5.362 ha in Sy.No.109-C&D of Ramagiri Village and Mandal of Ananthapur District, shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department from the funds realized from the User Agency;

iii. A minimum of 1000 plants / ha of diverted forest area shall be planted in the identified CA land. In case, the required numbers could not be planted therein, the balance shall be planted in the nearby RF/PF by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency;

iv. Non-forest land over an extent of **5.362 ha** in Sy No 109-C&D of Ramagiri Village and Mandal of Ananthapur District transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation shall be declared as Reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of-the State Forest Act. The Nodal Officer must report compliance within a period of six months from the date of grant of final approval and send a copy of the original notification to this office for information and record;

v. The approved compensatory afforestation scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;

vi. Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency;

vii. In case the mining lease is adjoining habitation, the stretch of the boundary of the safety zone of the lease adjacent to the habitation/roads should be properly fenced by the State Forest Department from the amount realized from the User Agency to protect the vegetation/regeneration activities in the safety zone;

viii. Safety zone shall be maintained as green belt and to ensure dense canopy cover in the area, regeneration activity shall be taken up by the State Forest Department from the amount realized from the User Agency;

ix. The State Forest Department shall carry out afforestation and its maintenance on degraded forest land, to be selected elsewhere measuring one and half times the area of forest land under safety zone from the amount realized from the User Agency. The DGPS co-ordinates of the area shall be submitted to this office;

x. The State Forest Department shall undertake gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forest (having crown density less than 0.4), if any, located in the area within 100 meters from outer perimeter of the mining lease and shall carry out the works as proposed in the mitigative measures plan for protection of this forest area located adjacent to the proposed mining lease area, from the amount realized from the User Agency;

xi. The User Agency shall undertake mining and concurrent reclamation in a phased manner as per the approved mining plan, and submit an annual compliance report to the Regional Office, Chennai. If it is found that the activities indicated in the reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the State Government or the DDGF (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed;

xii. The User Agency shall ensure stabilization of the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/ benching so as to ensure that the angle of repose at any given place is less than 280 ;

(Cont-3)

xiii. Diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015, or Rules framed there under. The User Agency shall submit a copy of the Mining lease once obtained, to the Regional Office, Chennai for record;

xiv. The User Agency shall obtain Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;

xv. The mining shall be done in forest area in accordance with the approved mining plan from competent authority and mining area shall not be opened up haphazardly. **Mining plan approved by the competent authority shall be submitted to this office within six months of receipt of this order;**

xvi. Consent of the State Pollution Control Board shall be obtained under the Air and Water Act before commencement of mining operations and it shall be renewed annually;

xvii. No labour camps shall be established on the forest land. User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;

xviii. Only temporary storage sheds shall be set up in the area and no permanent structure shall be constructed in the forest area. No material shall be dumped inside the forest area;

xix. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government.

xx. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to all the Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines of the Ministry, for the time being in force, as applicable to such project;

xxi. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 4.69 ha (including safety zone area);

xxii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency or Department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;

xxiii. Any other condition that the DDGF (Central), Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area shall be complied by the User Agency;

xxiv. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as provided under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Rules and Guidelines framed there under.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Andhra Pradesh, shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force),
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

Copy to:
The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)

Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Regional Office, 1st and 2nd Floors,
Handloom Export promotion Council Building
34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600034.

M/s. Venkateswara Rocks,
Prop. Sri P.Sudhakar Reddy, Chittoor.

The P.S to Hon'ble Minister (Energy, FES&T)

The P.S to Spl.CS to Government, EFS&T Dept.,

SF/SC

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER